

### ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method, apparatus, and article of manufacture for optimizing a query in a computer system, wherein the query is performed by the computer system to retrieve data from a database stored on the computer system. The optimization includes: (a) combining join  
5 predicates from a query with local predicates from each branch of one or more UNION ALL views referenced by the query; (b) analyzing the combined predicates; and (c) not generating the join when the analysis step indicates that the combined predicates lead to an empty result.

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